

## THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

The spirit of Christmas is one of cheerfulness and one of rejoicing. Closing our books for the year without thanking you for your patronage during the past months would leave one of our principal debts unpaid. Merry Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year to all.

## STOCKWELL AUTO SERVICE STATION

SERVICE THAT PLEASES

### LOCAL NEWS.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth James are in from their ranch on the Cap rock and will spend Christmas in town with relatives.

Emil Riley came down from Roswell where he is employed, and will be at home until after Christmas.

Frank W. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Smith, who is attending school at Waco, Texas, will be in tonight for the holidays.

Among others of our young folk coming home to spend Christmas, is Miss Elizabeth Hogue, who is at school in Missouri, and makes the long trip to be with her mother and other friends at the joyous Christmas.

Mrs. W. A. Moore entertained the Ladies Aid of the Presbyterian church Thursday afternoon of last week. Twenty-four ladies were present and a profitable meeting was held. The hostess served cake and chocolate as refreshments at the close of the business session.

Christmas guests at the Marvin Livingston home in LaHuerta, are Professor Stanley Dresher, and wife and Miss Barbara Jones. The ladies are sisters of Mrs. Livingston and their presence at this time gives great pleasure to a number of Carlsbad friends, they living here for some years. They came across the country in a car, coming from Globe, Arizona. Mr. Dresher was formerly principal in Carlsbad schools.

Mrs. Ben. J. Williams and brother, Henry Pendleton, arrived in Carlsbad last Monday driving through from El Paso that day. They tell us the roads are good from the Pass City to Pecos, but rough this side of that city. Mr. Williams will spend the holidays at San Francisco, his company giving him a trip to the factory as a Christmas present.

Virgil McCollum came down from school at Roswell and will spend the holidays at home. Virgil tells us that everything is moving along splendidly at N. M. M. I., and from his appearance it must be so. He takes high rank in scholarship at that institution.

Carlsbad visitors to Roswell the first of the week, according to the News, were Joe Chemall, J. F. Joyce and W. R. Helger, who spent a few days in that city on business of various kinds.

Mrs. Sam Moskia left for Roswell yesterday, where she will visit at the home of her parents until after Christmas. Mr. Moskia will join her Sunday. They will bring their little daughter, Jane, back with them on their return.

Mr. and Mrs. Coley Jones and Mrs. Sadie Cheatem will spend Christmas in Roswell, Mr. and Mrs. Jones visiting Mrs. Camp, the mother of Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Cheatem spending the day with Mrs. Wallace Kling, a sister of Miss Nell Atkins, a friend of hers. Miss Atkins, who is an employee of the Santa Fe at Amarillo, will also spend the day in Roswell at her sister's home.

John R. Joyce is expected home from school in the east next Sunday for a short visit, and an invitation dance is being planned by his parents, to be given at the Armory, the night of the 26th.

J. C. D'Arcy, of Artesia, was in town yesterday, and tells us that Mrs. D'Arcy has been ill for some weeks and is only now convalescing from a spell of pneumonia.

Aunt Sallie Slaughter spent the day Wednesday in Roswell, a guest at the home of Governor-elect Hinkle.

Mrs. Ross Partridge, of Detroit, Michigan, is expected to arrive in Carlsbad tomorrow, and will be a guest at the home of her relatives, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Cawley.

Miss Gertrude Lowenbruck, daughter of John Lowenbruck, came in from Phoenix, Arizona, where she has been living with her aunt, since the death of her mother, and will spend the Christmas holidays with relatives in and near Carlsbad.

At the District Conference held the latter part of last week and the first of this, R. B. Slease, of this city was elected delegate to the annual conference of the church, which will be held in Marfa, Texas, during the month of October, 1923. A worthy honor worthily bestowed.

## The Flute Player

By Christopher G. Hazard

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OF ALL the Christmas gifts of past years but one remained. It seemed surrounded by a charm that was all its own and that was as unaffected by the atmosphere of the bare and dingy room as a light in a dark place. The old schoolmaster took it up, looked lovingly upon it and replaced it upon the shelf. Then, advancing to the window, he looked out upon the lighted star in the church steeple that was proclaiming Christ's birthday and listened to the shouts of the merry-makers in the streets as they rose upon the snowy wind.

The old man's mind was busy with happier days. In the picture gallery of his memory visions of home cheer and gladness were upon the walls. Faces looked out from their frames with old glances of love, and figures passed before him full of the beauty of young life. Again he was in the midst of joyous and successful activities, companionship and enthusiasm. Then, as memory's mirage faded away and left but two receding images before him, he looked once more upon one who had gone to some unknown land, the son who had so mysteriously disappeared from the home fellowship and ken, and he saw again the form of her who had set out for the land that is beyond the stars, but not before she had placed in his hand the precious vase with the pictured flute player upon its side.

At the time he had not fully noted the significance of the happy urchin in the red robe as he held his flute to his lips. Pleasures and pursuits pressed upon him and left the musician unmotivated through the days and nights. But the boy had never ceased his playing, and now with some remembered melody, then with some new adventure in the world of harmony, he seemed to be waiting for the recognition and appreciation that he knew would come. A steadfast and inveterate optimist, he played on; to weariness and loneliness he played a hopeful song; forbidding dejection and despair, he became a prophet of better days to come. In solitude and uselessness he was as an only but unchanged friend. To him the old man turned as to an oracle. Poverty had taken one after the other of his possessions, but had never been able to separate him from this merry genius, this incorrigibly persistent promiser.

If the prelude does not get discouraged fortune is likely to admire it and introduce the performance, and this turned out to be the reward of the industrious hope of the flute player. He did not hear the step upon the stair or the knock upon the door, and he did not see the amazement with which the schoolmaster listened to the tale of his lost son, as he embraced him and tried to realize that he had indeed come back and brought good fortune with him, but even more merrily and madly he played in the dance with which these two were to go down the future.

Habits are strange things. One can get so far into a habit of gladness as to be unable to get out of it. A face can get so used to smiling as to have no right there. A boy can become so committed to fluting as to be unable to stop. It was so with the flute player; to this day he plays and does nothing else. He sits upon another and a better shelf, but not idly. He is among happy people, but busy sending joy out into all the neighborhood. He has played the old schoolmaster young again and fixed his thought upon a life that never grows old.

Indeed, the flute player has even encouraged the schoolmaster to begin teaching again. The scholars are his grandchildren. They are not having a hard time, for they sing on their way to lessons. They are not unhappy scholars, for one of them threw a kiss to the last Christmas moon. Last summer another of them became a poetess and composed the following appreciation of nature:

Above the Argonne Forest  
A Star is shining fair;  
Its gentle beams awaken  
The young men sleeping there.

Again in songs of angels  
The birth of Christ is told;  
The young men go to greet him  
With richer gifts than gold.

The flute player is setting this to music. This scholar has already learned to write. She has proved that by producing an invitation to one of the school sessions in this form:

Dear Aunt Fanny:  
Please come Friday, if you can; and if you can't come, don't come.

She is not a flatterer, however, when she said one day, "Grandpa, you don't look a bit over twenty."



## To Our Friends and Patrons

'Tis Christmas Time—the season of good cheer and Santa Claus. May we say a word of thanks for the business you have so kindly turned our way during 1922? This business has been sincerely appreciated and we trust it has been so handled as to justify a continuance of our past pleasant relations.

And now, at this Yuletide Season, we wish you and yours a wonderfully Happy Christmas, and a 1923 filled with joy, prosperity and plenty.

Cordially yours,

## J. F. FLOWERS

### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Over nineteen hundred years ago there was born in Bethlehem a sweet little baby. This child, as heaven was no longer silent, was announced to this world as the Savior of it.

There being three world's ideas at this time, the Greeks, Romans and Jewish, other ideas spring forth from He who was wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in the manger by his mother. In this manger was the beginning of deeper and loftier ideas. They were so extensive that the entire world is looming and full of them. The reason for this is ascribed to wisdom from above—from our Father.

Sunday morning, at the Church of Christ, the birth day of Jesus will be held in the mind of the people. His body and blood will be commemorated by partaking of the communion, "This do in remembrance of me." The ancient disciples did it on the first day of the week (Acts, 20:7). There will be no preaching, but at the usual hour for preaching there will be a Christmas tree program rendered and White Gifts for the King. Preaching at 7:30 p. m. "His Advent."

We are going to have a great sweet time in worship to our Lord and master. You are cordially invited to share a part of this heavenly enjoyment. Folk remember your dear mother on this occasion.

D. MCARROLL, Pastor.

### NOTICE—MASS MEETING

A mass meeting of citizens of Carlsbad and the county is called for the 28th of December, at 3:00 p. m. in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. This meeting is called for the purpose of electing directors of the Eddy County Hospital. A full attendance of citizens is desired and urgently requested.

Next week JOY WEEK at Crawford Theatre.

Mr. Cavanaugh is clerking at the Roberts-Deaborne Hardware Company during the Christmas rush, coming from the ranch the first of the week and entering on his duties immediately.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Madera and their governess came in from the Madera ranch Tuesday and remained in the city until Wednesday afternoon, doing Christmas shopping and visiting with friends.

Watch for the W. E. Rose sale bills. Sale to be January 6th, 1923. This will be the time to buy all the necessities for the coming season.

S. B. Wetmore, L. L. Ochempaur and C. L. Doyle, a trio of business men from Roswell, were in town Monday night leaving for their homes Tuesday morning. They were guests at the Palace while in town.

Don't forget the big auction sale at the W. E. Rose farm at Lovina, January 6, 1923.

Ed Mata left Thursday morning on a short trip to El Paso, expecting to return after Christmas.

Most people are considered intelligent until they begin to tell others what they know.

Next week JOY WEEK at Crawford Theatre.

Nellis, Mary and little Jennie Mata left this morning for Artesia to attend a Junior Christmas party to be given by their little cousins, Cuca and Lella Mata, Mrs. Elvira Chavez acting as chaperon.

Rev. L. L. Thurston, of Pecos, returning to his home from Fortales, stopped over Monday night in the city, a guest of the Palace Hotel.

If time is money a lot of people do a credit business.

### HAY TRADE CONDITIONS OF THE WEEK

Hay markets this week have been steady to slightly lower. Receipts have not been burdensome but the demand at this time of year is always light as consumers do not buy heavily as they do not want to carry over into the new year. Prices at the principal markets show little change but little improvement can be expected before the holidays. Country loadings are reported to be of small volume, so heavy accumulations are not anticipated at the terminal markets.—Hay Trade Journal, journal.

R. M. Watson received news of the death of his father, which occurred the first of the week at his home in Walnut Tree, Arkansas. The deceased, J. H. Watson, was about eighty-one years old at the time of his death. Mr. Watson had endeavored to make his father a visit this winter, but sickness in the family prevented. Many friends here are sympathizing with him in his bereavement.

### PECOS VALLEY OIL WELL IS PRODUCING 20 BARRELS DAILY

Artesia, Dec. 20.—The Hawkins oil well, located south of Artesia, near Dayton, on section 10-19-28, has been producing twenty barrels of oil daily during the past few days. This well, drilled by the New Mexico, Kansas and Texas Oil company, is about 1,100 feet deep and indications are favorable for an excellent producer. The well was pumped a few hours on Monday and twenty barrels were produced. A like amount was produced in a few hours pumping yesterday. The well was pumped today and the flow was not diminished.

Much excitement prevails in the valley. Another well will be drilled by the company in a short time near this well, according to Mr. Hawkins, who is in charge of the operations. The gas flow is sufficient from this well to supply fuel for additional rigs. A third well will be started soon as equipment can be had.

Next week JOY WEEK at Crawford Theatre.

## A MERRY CHRISTMAS

TO OUR FAITHFUL OLD FRIENDS AND CHERISHED NEW FRIENDS: And to those whose friendship we strive to deserve, we tender this—

### GREETING

We hope that the New Year will be a happy one for you and that great prosperity will be yours. We strive to please you with the best of service and therefore we ask for your hearty co-operation.

OWEN-M'ADOO DRUG CO.

## DON'T EXPERIMENT

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